



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6281.0 - Work in Selected Culture and Leisure Activities, Australia, Apr 1997

ARCHIVED ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 20/11/1997

MEDIA RELEASE

November 20, 1997

Embargoed: 11:30 AM (AEST)

153/97

Nearly 2.2 million people involved in cultural or leisure work

Out of the 2.2 million Australians who work in cultural or leisure industries 40% (877,000) were paid for their work in the year ended March 1997, according to figures released today from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

More than half (523,400) of those people who were paid were working in the industry as their main job. The most common cultural or leisure activities were writing, organising fetes, teaching cultural activities, music, design and performing arts.

Almost 43 per cent of the cultural involvements were of a short term or part time nature, being 13 weeks or less in duration and under 10 hours a week.

The ACT had the highest number of people working in the cultural activities (25.8 per cent) than in any other state, followed by South Australia (17.8 per cent), Northern Territory (17.4 per cent), Tasmania (15.7 per cent), Queensland (15.6 per cent), Western Australia (15.4) per cent, Victoria (14.5 per cent) and New South Wales (14.1 per cent).

Women had a higher participation (16.3 per cent) in culture activities than men (13.9 per cent). Also, people aged between 35 to 44 had the highest involvement among the age groups.

Details are in **Work in Selected Culture Leisure Activities** (cat. no. 6281.0) which is available from ABS Bookshops.

This page last updated 8 December 2006

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